

## **Draft**

### **Minutes from the Individual Sewage Disposal System (ISDS) Task Force – Regulatory Working Group Meeting of July 10, 2001**

The meeting was held in Conference Room 280, DEM Office of Water Resources, 235 Promenade Street and began at approximately 8:20 AM.

In attendance:

Russ Chateaufneuf, George Loomis, Eugenia Marks, Alison Walsh, Susan Licardi, Monica Staaf, Joe Frisella, Tom D'Angelo, Scott Moorehead, Ernie Panciera, Deb Knauss

#### Review of minutes from June 20, 2001

Minutes were accepted as submitted.

For the benefit of members of the group who had missed recent meetings, Russ clarified some confusion concerning the Draft Strategy for Cesspool Removal, which was generated by the minutes of June 20.

- Definition of "Watercourse"  
Russ stated that wetlands are not included in the definition of watercourse, as applied in the Draft Strategy for Cesspool Removal.
  - If wetlands were to be included in the definition of watercourse, there was concern expressed with the issue of identifying their location: degree of difficulty and expense.
  - There was concern that wetlands weren't included in a higher risk category than the "rest of the state".
- Cesspools within 200 feet of any drain which is likely to intercept groundwater
  - Joe Frisella inquired as to whether the Department would accept a groundwater study proving that a cesspool is down gradient of a drain, as justification for being released from the Category 1 removal requirement and removing the cesspool in accordance with a lesser risk category. Russ expressed a concern that such an approach would subject property owners to a case-by-case review process, which might be considered arbitrary. He asked Joe if he would be willing to draft a guide as to how a home owner might seek to demonstrate an exemption is appropriate, for our consideration; Joe agreed to try to do so.
- It was suggested that there should be no provision for relief from the Category 3 removal requirement; since it is the last deadline, there is adequate time to plan for removal.

#### Sewage Flows

##### **Definitions**

"Bedroom" There was concern that "heated living space", in the definition of bedroom does not account for upper levels of old farmhouses, in which heat rose to the second floor.

##### **27.1.2 Determination of Sewage Flow for establishments not listed in table 27.1**

- The addition of a peaking factor of 25 – 30 %, to the highest daily flow reported by meter readings, was suggested. Russ stated that requiring a peaking factor would be considered.

##### **Table 27.1 Sewage Design Flows**

- Residential

It was suggested that residential systems be sized based on the number of occupants. Russ explained that it is impractical to enforce a regulation based on number of occupants and that no other states size home septic systems based on occupancy.

There was discussion addressing sizing systems to accommodate the additional flow generated by use of Jacuzzis or whirlpool baths:

- Is the requirement in the draft language, to increase the septic tank by one size (250 gallons), when it is known that a whirlpool bath will be installed, adequate? CT regulation includes this requirement.
- It was suggested that the greatest risk of system failure is in rental homes in resort areas, where whirlpool baths may be expected to be used daily.
- Concern that whirlpool baths are installed after the ISDS is approved prompted a suggestion that an effort be made to educate building officials and municipal wastewater officials to look for whirlpools on home plans and to be certain that the proposed septic system is adequate to accommodate these fixtures.

### **Institutional**

- Group Homes

It was suggested that design flow should be 150 gallons per bed instead of 200 gallons per bed.

### **Camps and Campgrounds**

It was stated that campgrounds generally include separate facilities such as, bathhouses, a boathouse, a mess hall (sometimes with restrooms), an infirmary, administrative offices and a caretaker's building. Some campgrounds have cabins with toilets.

It was suggested that "camp" be modified as "institutional camps" which would include church camps and Boy and Girl Scout camps.

It was suggested that "camp" and "campground" be added to the definitions section.

DEM will contact the Department of Health for any regulations regarding camps.

### **Restaurants**

There was discussion concerning "drive-up windows" and the use of restrooms at establishments with these features. It was suggested that there should be a separate design flow assigned for "drive-up windows", 250 gallons was suggested.

### **Commercial**

- Barber Shop/Beauty Salon: It was suggested that nail salons and other types of salons be accounted for within this category.
- Marina: It was suggested that marinas be clarified to apply to shore-side facilities.
- Bakeries: It was suggested that it be clarified that design flow for a bakery would be 450 gallons per day according to the "food outlet <5,000 square-feet" at 350 gallons plus the additional 100 gallons "per outlet" for a bakery.
- Bakery/Meat Department: Concern was expressed that the additional 100 and 150 gallons for bakery and meat department respectively were too low.
- It was suggested that Fish Market be added.
- It was suggested that Health Clubs and pet grooming facilities be added; 500 gallons per grooming station was suggested.

### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:25.

### Next Meetings:

- Tuesday, July 17, 2001 – 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM  
Conference Room 280, DEM Office of Water Resources,  
235 Promenade Street.
- Tuesday, July 24, 2001 – 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM  
Conference Room 280, DEM Office of Water Resources,  
235 Promenade Street.